

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:02 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2014 in the West Annex Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Greenberg, Hays, Mayeda, Reilly, and Chairperson Baxter.

Absent: Commissioners Love and Uchima.

Also Present: Community Services Director Jones, Park Services Manager Carson, Senior Business Manager Minter, Recreation Services Manager Brunette, Associate Engineer Kidd, and Recreation Specialist II Schuck.

MOTION: Commissioner Hays moved to grant Commissioners Love and Uchima excused absences for the August 13, 2014 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Hays led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Reilly moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Love and Uchima).

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF JUNE 11, 2014

Commissioner Reilly offered a correction on Page 1 as follows: Item 2, **MOTION**, "Commissioner Mayeda seconded the motion;..."

MOTION: Commissioner Hays moved to approve the Commission meeting minutes of June 11, 2014 as amended. Commissioner Mayeda seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Love and Uchima).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

Senior Business Manager Minter introduced Recreation Specialist II Matthew Schuck who is responsible for Facility Booking.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7A. PUEBLO PARK RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE

Community Services Director Jones provided background on the Pueblo Park Renovation Project. He reported that the overall project cost was higher than the funding available in the City's Capital Budget. He informed the Commission that, in order to execute the awarded contract with Malibu Pacific Tennis Courts and to move forward with the project, City Council appropriated an additional \$48,929.50 from the unallocated Parks and Recreation Open Space fund on July 22, 2014. He stated that construction is expected to begin in August, with the grand opening anticipated for late November or early December 2014.

In response to Commissioner Hays' inquiry, he stated that maintenance cost was not added to the Park Services Division's Operating Budget, estimating that an additional 206 hours or \$8,684 in labor cost will be needed annually.

7B. IMPACT REPORT ON OVERSIZED INFLATABLE AMUSEMENTS

Senior Business Manager Minter reported that on May 28, 2014 the Toyota Motor Sales' company picnic took place at Wilson Park with the three oversized inflatable bouncers approved by the Commission on May 14, 2014. He stated that staff members were present to evaluate the impact of the oversized bouncers on the park. He stated that the visual impact was much greater than typical park use and the inflatable bouncers were too large to fit in the standard bouncer locations. Regarding the impact on the turf, he stated that staff determined that there was no greater impact than any other bouncer.

He presented staff's recommendation that oversized bouncers continue to be excluded from the bouncer policy, as their impact to the park limits the public's ability to utilize the open space adjacent to the picnic area. He further recommended that Community Services Director Jones be responsible for granting any exceptions to the policy and that the use of generators be minimized due to noise impacts on the park and surrounding neighborhoods. He noted that staff would review all permitted bouncer locations to determine whether or not electricity permits could be issued instead of allowing generators.

Responding to Commissioner Reilly's inquiry, Senior Business Manager Minter stated that one oversized bouncer would have less impact than three, that the company had organized activities, and that two of the bouncers were successful and one was not.

Commissioner Greenberg received clarification from staff that no complaints have been received about bouncers at Wilson Park, only the smaller parks that abut homes.

MOTION: Commissioner Hays moved to accept and file the impact report on oversized inflatable amusements. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Love and Uchima).

8. NEW BUSINESS

8A. DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB DONATION AND USE TOWARD DOGGIE BAG PROGRAM

Recreation Services Manager Brunette requested that the Commission accept a \$1,000 donation from the Dog Obedience Club of Torrance and that it be used toward the dog waste bag program. He noted that this brings the grand total of their donations to date at \$41,835.

In response to Commissioner Hays' inquiry, Park Services Manager Carson stated that they are constantly restocking waste bags and are not planning to put doggy bag stations in all of the City's parks. He mentioned that they have received a request to install a doggy drinking station at Entradero Park.

MOTION: Commissioner Greenberg, seconded by Commissioner Reilly, moved to accept the donation from the Dog Obedience Club of Torrance and that it be used towards the dog waste bag program; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

8B. PRESENTATION ON THE 186TH STREET IMPROVEMENTS AT COLUMBIA PARK

Park Services Manager Carson introduced the informational item and welcomed Associate Engineer Kidd from Public Works.

Associate Engineer Kidd reported that the City has hired a consultant to provide detailed engineering designs for parking, drainage, sidewalk, and access improvements along 186th Street on the north side of Columbia Park. He presented two alternatives—one with angled parking along the south side of 186th Street and the other with all parallel parking. He stated that the angle parking option would provide 50 parking spaces and handicap parking; however, it would require utilizing 12-1/2 feet of parkway. The parallel parking would provide 30 spaces and would have less impact into the park right-of-way.

Community Services Director Jones pointed out that people are already angle parking along 186th Street and expressed safety concern for pedestrians with the current parking situation. He noted that the 12-1/2 feet is unused turf that he was interested in working with Southern California Edison to utilize the easement for even more parking.

Commissioner Mayeda inquired about traffic calming measures and Community Services Director Jones replied that having formal, marked angle parking spaces would create a better safe zone. He received clarification that there would be no change in lighting or radio tower.

8C. APPROVAL OF THE 2013 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Community Services Director Jones expressed his appreciation to former Chairperson Hays for his assistance in preparing the 2013 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report. He briefly reviewed the Report and stated that it would go to City Council in September. Commissioner Greenberg suggested additions.

MOTION: Commissioner Greenberg moved to approve the 2013 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report for July 2013 to June 2014 as amended. Commissioner Mayeda seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Love and Uchima).

9. STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

9A. FACILITIES COMMITTEE - No report.

9B. GRANTS COMMITTEE - No report.

9C. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE - No report.

9D. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE - No report.

10. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

10A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Senior Business Manager Minter noted that the Administrative Services Division Reports for June and July 2014 were included in agenda packets.

Responding to Commissioner Reilly's inquiry regarding the Home Improvement Program, he compared the numbers for households currently being served and households completed.

Recreation Specialist II Schuck answered Commissioner Hays' inquiries about the Toyota Sports Complex. He noted that many clubs are trying to get into the facility and that there are requests for not only soccer but also for frisbee and lacrosse. He discussed the challenge that he had with the lighting timers and rules that are being enforced because of the synthetic turf.

Park Services Manager Carson noted that people have been very respectful of the turf and the rules.

Senior Business Manager Minter stated that the revenue continues to grow and that he would bring back a report to a future Commission meeting.

10B. PARK SERVICES DIVISION

Park Services Manager Carson noted that the Park Services Division Reports for June and July 2014 were included in attachments.

10C. RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

Recreation Services Manager Brunette noted that the Recreation Services Division Reports for June and July 2014 were included in agenda packets.

11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

11A. Senior Business Manager Minter thanked Recreation Specialist II Schuck for taking time out of his busy schedule to be here tonight.

11B. Commissioner Greenberg stated that Akai Swim School is closing down the end of August 2014.

11C. Community Services Director Jones pointed out letters of appreciation for staff in attachments.

11D. Commissioner Mayeda congratulated Chairperson Baxter for successfully leading his first Commission meeting.

11E. Commissioner Greenberg thanked Park Services staff for assisting with the Rotary Clubs' softball games at Wilson Park.

11F. Commissioner Hays thanked Park Services staff for their hard work for the AYSO National Tournament.

11G. Community Services Director Jones announced LA Galaxy City of Torrance Night on October 4 at the Stubhub Center and Rockquacade synchronized swimming show on August 22-23, 2014 at the Benstead Plunge.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:20 p.m., Commissioner Reilly moved to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Baxter so ordered.

###

Approved as submitted September 10, 2014 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk
